

QUALITY MAMMOGRAPHY FOR
OUR VETERANS

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to add my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 882, which requires the Department of Veterans Affairs, consulting with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to put in place standards that will ensure quality mammography for our veterans who receive their health care in Veterans Department facilities.

As a principal sponsor of the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992, I have been gratified to observe the impact of this legislation. The Department of Health and Human Services, through the Food and Drug Administration, moved quickly to establish and put in place a credible process for accrediting mammography facilities. As of today, more than 90 percent of the mammography facilities in the country have been certified as meeting the standards of the American College of Radiology. With its expert advisory committee, including input from mammography facilities themselves, the FDA continues to work toward development of additional standards as defined in the statute, which will be in place for future inspections and certification of facilities.

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in American women. The potential success of treating this frightening and devastating illness is in large measure contingent on accurate early diagnosis. Since mammography is a critical and effective method for detecting breast cancer early, it is crucial that this service be available, safe, and accurate. The Mammography Quality Standards Act is intended to achieve this result, and early indications are that it is a whopping success.

The exemption of Veterans Affairs facilities from the requirements of the MQSA should not mean that women who seek mammograms in Veterans Department facilities must fear receiving lower quality service. H.R. 882 seeks to ensure that these facilities are in line with those of the rest of the country, so that our women veterans can be assured of the safest and highest quality mammography.

WALLACE GAILOR, SARATOGA
COUNTY'S SANTA CLAUS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

Mr. SOLOMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has brought joy to the lives of countless children and adults alike in Saratoga County, NY. Wallace Gailor has portrayed a real-life Santa Claus since 1940, over 50 years no. Clearly, he personifies the sense of giving and caring exemplified by the mythical Santa Claus we all adore.

What better way, Mr. Speaker, to spread the spirit of Christmas than to voluntarily entertain one's neighbors for such a prolonged period of time. Much has changed in this country since 1940. However, thanks to Wallace Gailor, the depiction of Santa Claus around the communities of Saratoga County has remained a con-

stant. His faithful service has bridged the gap by retaining those values which are critical for a healthy sense of community. By teaching such traditional American values as voluntarism, selflessness, and generosity, Wallace Gailor exemplifies the things that have made this country great. In the process, Wallace has become not only a great public servant, but a model for the young people of Saratoga County, a critical service in this day and age.

Mr. Speaker, I have always judged people based on how much they return to their community. By that measure, Wallace Gailor is a truly great American. I ask that you and all Members join me now in paying tribute to this real-life Santa Claus. We would all do well to emulate his spirit of community service and giving.

TRIBUTE TO SANFORD
RUBENSTEIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Sanford A. Rubenstein is the majority leader of the Rockland County legislature. He has served five terms as a country legislator representing the town of Ramapo.

As a practicing lawyer he has been described by Joana Molloy of the New York Post as one of New York's "High Powered Personal Injury Attorneys." Rubenstein, for over 20 years has represented and presently represents victims of the city's most terrible tragedies which have been the subject of headlines in all of New York's daily newspapers. He has appeared on numerous television news and talks shows including "The Phil Donahue Show," "CNN World News," "Sally Jesse Raphael," "Montel Williams," "Good Day New York," and "The McCort Report." He hosts a weekly Manhattan cable television show called "Lawyers Corner". He also has been interviewed by foreign journalists from Melbourne, Australia and by the BBC in England.

He is a member of the board of directors of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and the board of governors of the Association of Trial Lawyers of the City of New York. He is a trustee of the New York State Democratic Committee.

Rubenstein has been recognized by President Clinton for his work for democracy in Haiti and peace in the Middle East. He is presently working with President Aristide of Haiti on the economic revitalization of that country's badly battered economy.

A TRIBUTE TO JOE KENNEDY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Joe Kennedy, who on July 3, will retire from the National Park Service and his position over the last 8½ years as Superintendent of the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia.

It is sad, but true, that many in this body these days take price in denigrating Federal

employees, especially those in uniform. I will not be a party to those antics, and committed public servants like Joe Kennedy illustrate the degree of professionalism that swells the ranks of many agencies such as the National Park Service.

Since January 1987, Joe has served with distinction and dedication as the Superintendent of the New River Gorge National River. He arrived at a time when very little in the way of basic infrastructure was in place at the park unit. I am pleased to report that under Joe's leadership, a great deal has been accomplished including the construction of a state-of-the-art visitor center at Canyon Rim, a park headquarters complex at Glen Jean, a boardwalk at Sandstone Falls that is a naturalist's delight, modern river access facilities at Cunard and Fayette Station, the restoration of historic Thurmond, and the establishment of an extensive trail system. During Joe's tenure, he also supervised a very active land acquisition program, and park operations and services improved vastly. These are just a few of his accomplishments.

Throughout this period, Joe Kennedy never shirked from the call of duty, often going above and beyond what was required of him. After moving the park headquarters to Glen Jean, Joe received a phone call from an elderly lady in the community who wanted him to go over to her home and remove a snake that was in the basement. The Superintendent did not hesitate to do so. Moreover, Joe has had the distinction of serving as the Superintendent of not just one, but three, units of the National Park System at the same time. A little more than 1 year after arriving at West Virginia, through my efforts, Congress passed legislation to establish the Gauley River National Recreation Area and the Bluestone National Scenic River on tributaries of the New River. Joe has served as the Superintendent of all three park units, making him the "River King" of the National Park Service.

Joe Kennedy now retires after serving the public as an employee of the National Park Service for 34 years. Starting his career at Kings Mountain National Military Park in South Carolina during July 1961, he then served briefly at Fort Pulaski National Monument in Georgia before being transferred to the Nation's Capital in July 1964 where he worked at the Department of the Interior until October 1968. After that, he headed south again and served at the Everglades National Park until October 1971 when he heeded that age old call of "go West young man." Between October 1971 and August 1979, Joe worked at the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and then, as Superintendent of Dinosaur National Monument until moving to West Virginia in 1987.

I have been extremely proud to have had the honor to know and work with Joe Kennedy. We have gone through a lot of dedication ceremonies together, ran a goodly number of whitewater rapids on both the New and Gauley together—during which he never fell out of the raft, hiked a trail or two, and had some great discussions. To say the least, I am dismayed that he is retiring. His humor, patience, fortitude, and vision will be sorely missed.

In conclusion, it is my understanding that Joe and his wife Jayne will move back to their native State of North Carolina. He will bring with him a wealth of memories from his years